

Fire

Mission Statement

The mission of the Fire Department is to protect life, property and the environment within the City through proactive life safety, community education and emergency service programs utilizing responsible fiscal management, a highly trained workforce, progressive technology and modern equipment. We do this in order to provide a safe and enhanced quality of life for our citizens.

Major 2001/02 Priorities

- Provide ongoing administrative support to ensure that all Department objectives are met.
- Actively pursue State and Federal grants to enhance and supplement our Operations/Suppression and Training areas.
- Actively pursue and prosecute arsonists in conjunction with the Riverside Police Department and the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms.
- Administer and expand the Fire F.R.I.E.N.D.S. juvenile intervention program.
- Coordinate information system needs and programming with the Information Systems Department.
- Administer and coordinate the maintenance and improvement of all Fire Department facilities in conjunction with the Building Services Division.
- Enforce fire codes and standards in existing buildings, buildings under construction, storage maintenance, and use of hazardous materials.

Council Priorities Addressed

- Public Safety
- More Effective Communication with the Public
- Economic Development

- Administer the Public Education Program for schools and the general public.
- Provide emergency response for all types of incidents to the general public.
- Provide emergency advanced life care through the Paramedic Program.
- Provide essential and required training to all Department personnel.
- Operate Channel 53 and the City Bulletin Board.
- Provide video production support and administration for all requesting City departments.
- Participate with the County of Riverside in administering the CUPA Program within the City of Riverside

Programs and Program Goals

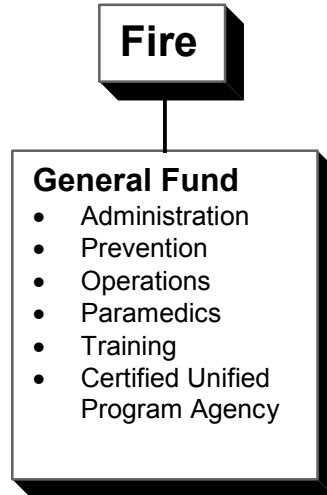
FY 2001/02

Administration: To provide policy direction/leadership/vision, administration and fiscal management to enable the Department to achieve program outcomes while complying with federal, state, local, and other requirements. In addition, the goal is to administer the Arson investigation section in order to reduce the incidence of arson within the City of Riverside.

Prevention: To ensure compliance with Fire and Life Safety Codes through fire inspections, plan reviews, special use permits, and public education for the community in order that the incidence of fire will be reduced.

CUPA: To ensure compliance with State law by permitting, inspection, and enforcement for hazardous materials use facilities in order to prevent hazardous material incidents in the Community.

Fire



Description of the Service

The Fire Department consists of six divisions; Administration, Prevention, Operations, Paramedics, CUPA and Training. The Department is comprised of 217.65 FTE's. Major facilities include 13 fire stations strategically placed throughout the City and a fire training tower used in the advanced training of our employees. The Canyon Springs Station is jointly shared with the City of Moreno Valley and is the first in California to be so configured. Special programs within the Fire Department include the Arson Investigation Team which has recently implemented Fire F.R.I.E.N.D.S., a juvenile arson intervention program; Advanced Life Support provided by the Paramedic Program; and the Certified Unified Program Agency program to regulate hazardous materials in cooperation with the County of Riverside. The Fire Department responds to more than 21,000 calls for service annually. The Operations Division staffs and maintains a Federal Urban Search and Rescue Team (California Task Force-6) that provides highly trained rescue personnel and equipment to disaster incidents anywhere in the nation. This is one of eight specialized rescue teams strategically located throughout California.

Programs and Program Goals

Operations: To maintain a state of readiness in order to respond to and mitigate fire, medical, and other emergencies for our residents and the general public in order that they may survive unexpected emergencies.

EMS Services: To provide the public with timely advanced life care procedures when necessary in order to minimize the effect of illness or injury.

Training: To provide ongoing training necessary to attain and maintain a level of proficiency in all areas of firefighting, rescue and fire safety to members of the Fire Department in order that they may safely and effectively mitigate emergency incidents and to comply with State and Federal regulatory requirements.

Fire

Recent Accomplishments

- Hired 48 Firefighter/Paramedics and expect to have a fully-staffed Paramedic complement beginning FY 2001-02.
- Worked closely with the IS Department to replace the Fire Incident Records Management System, which provides and maintains State-required statistical data and data regarding the performance measures.
- Implemented the Tele-Staff personnel staffing system to fill absences on emergency units to reduce the staff time required to fill vacancies due to vacations, holidays, special assignments and other reasons.
- Completed several vegetation mitigation projects on Mt. Rubidoux and in the Santa Ana River bottom reducing the possibility of having repetitive, large-scale fires. Recognized by the Governor's Office of Emergency Services Disaster Assistance Division.
- Launched the Firesetter Regional Intervention Education Network and Delivery System (FIRE F.R.I.E.N.D.S.) aimed at reducing the number of juvenile arson and fire play incidences in the City.
- 92 percent of those responding to the third annual citizen survey rated the services of the Fire Department as "good" or "excellent."
- Implemented a new computer Training Records Program to document all fire training thereby improving efficiency in reporting training hours for reimbursement and meeting OSHA requirements.
- Developed a comprehensive respiratory protection program to comply with OSHA regulations.
- Developed two Multi-Incident Support Trailers to supplement our regular emergency responses.